Dr. Jane E. Henney, Commissioner Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane, HF-1 Rockville, MD 20857

1561 '99 APR 28 P1 56

Dear Commissioner Henney,

As a person who tries to live a healthy life, I exercise regularly and try to eat a well-balanced diet that includes the vitamins and minerals that I need and avoids the things that are toxic to me; as a person who has experienced anaphylaxis, I am especially careful to look for those things which have caused me problems before, or which are known to cause problems for other forms of life which have similar chemical makeup.

I am especially concerned that the food that looks so comforting and familiar might not be what it appears to be. My food choices are already restricted by what I already know that I am allergic to; I don't need strange chemicals secretly bred into common-appearing food items.

In May, a lawsuit was filed challenging the F.D.A.'s policy not to require labels on transgenic foods. I support the demands of this lawsuit for safety testing and complete and prominent labels. Any substances which are generated by a bio-engineered plant because they are known to be toxic to "pests" should be properly tested to show that they are not also toxic to human beings, and, because different human beings have different sensitivities, these substances should be marked in such a fashion that a reasonably diligent consumer would be aware of them.

I know that the F.D.A. sincerely wishes to guard the health of all of the food-eating public, and not just that of a statistically-significant majority, and that you will seek to provide consumers with the information we need about the food we eat.

Sincerely,

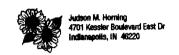
Judson M. Horning

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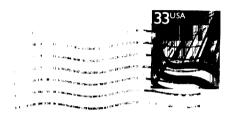
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